

VCU Newsroom – Show 9: January 17th, 2010

The Canal Walk at Reynolds Plant Getting Makeover

Play Intro

Its 5:00 here on the VCU campus, coming up next is your local news, weather, weird news, VCU events and more. I'm Michael Campbell and you're live in the VCU Newsroom on WVCW.

Announced this morning, Fountainhead Properties and The WVS Companies have contracted to

Top Story 5:00 pm Reynolds Plant North on the Thrawl Canal and develop 100,000 sq ft of residential,

Weather Check retail space that begins the area's historic, riverside walk.

We open the VCU Newsroom on this Wednesday with a check of your weather right now.

The clouds have moved into the area ahead of not one but two storm systems coming together off the coast of the state. Snow showers will begin to roll in as we move into sunset tonight. Here in the metro area, we can expect some mild accumulation, with about an inch of snow possible. This will make the morning commute tricky but not too dangerous in the morning.

Areas to the south should expect this storm to bring about 1 to 2 inches and the areas near the coast could see about 3-5 inches. This storm will move out the area over the day Thursday and we may even see a peek of sun over the day tomorrow. This storm will become a pretty powerful nor'easter that will bring blizzard conditions to the New York Area and points north.

Charterfield School System New Revised Budget

Stay tuned here to the VCU Newsroom, we will have another check of your weather here during the show.

It is better for some at Charterfield County Public Schools. The school is also expected to cut

300 positions, they intend will cut 200 and paycut will only be reduced one percent instead of two or

Moving to other Virginia News
The bad news is happening in the County's second office. The cut will be increased there from \$500,000 to \$1.3 million. Nine positions will be eliminated including the loss of two assistant superintendents.

The County is also proposing closing Perrymont Middle School at a savings of \$1 million. And it will defer school improvements at Midlothian Middle School, Midlothian High School, Watson Elementary and Gates Elementary. Staffing those projects will save the district an estimated \$4.7 million.

Crocker's Spot Closed due to back taxes

Another restaurant in downtown Richmond has shut its doors. Long-time Jackson Ward landmark, Crocker's Spot was shut down by the state this month.

According to a sign on the front door from the Virginia Department of Taxation, the restaurant was closed because it owes more than \$44,000 in unpaid taxes.

Our calls to management were not returned, but a note also on the front door says they closed for restructuring.

General manager, Enjoli Moon, told the Richmond Times-Dispatch the restaurant was in talks with the state about delinquent taxes and "we're deciding what we want to do next."

Virginia News

The Canal Walk at Reynolds Plant Getting Makeover

The old Reynolds Aluminum Plant in Richmond could get a new lease on life.

Announced this morning, Fountainhead Properties and The WVS Companies have contracted to purchase the former Reynolds Plant North on the Haxall Canal and develop it into a mix of residential, commercial and retail space that befits the site's historic, riverside roots.

~~The developers plan to turn the site, a six-acre former aluminum foil manufacturing plant on the banks of the Haxall Canal in downtown Richmond, into a mix of residential, commercial and retail space that befits the site. The property is the missing piece needed to complete the City's planned development of the Canal and River District.~~

Fountainhead Properties, the developers of The Plant Zero Art Center, New Manchester Flats and other revitalization projects on both sides of the James River, and The WVS Companies, developers of Rocketts Landing, have contracted to purchase the former Reynolds Plant North for an undisclosed price. The two companies have formed a joint venture, Fall Line Capital, LLC. Subject to a due diligence period, the purchase is expected to close by year-end.

Chesterfield Schools Approve New Revised Budget

The news is better for some at Chesterfield County Public Schools. The school system expected to cut 300 positions, they instead will cut 200 and paycuts will only be reduced one percent instead of two or three.

The bad news is happening in the County's central office. The cuts will be increased there from \$600,000 to \$1.3 million. Nine positions will be eliminated including the loss of two assistant superintendents.

The County is also proposing closing Perrymount Middle School at a savings of \$1 million. And it will defer school improvements at Midlothian Middle School, Midlothian High School, Watkins Elementary and Gates Elementary. Stalling those projects will save the district ~~an anticipated~~ \$4.7 million.

Crocker's Spot Closed due to back taxes

Another restaurant in downtown Richmond has shut its doors. Long-time Jackson Ward landmark, Croaker's Spot was shut down by the state this month.

According to a sign on the front door from the Virginia Department of Taxation, the restaurant was closed because it owes more than \$43,000 in unpaid taxes.

Our calls to management were not returned, but a note also on the front door says they closed for restructuring.

General manager, Enjoli Moon, told the Richmond Times-Dispatch the restaurant was in talks with the state about delinquent taxes and, "we're deciding what we want to do next."

Croaker's Spot has been open at that location since 2001. In December, Croaker's Spot opened a second location on Hull Street. That business is still open.

A memorial to a beloved family will be memorialized with a pedestrian bridge in Forest Hill Park.

The Council unanimously voted Monday to name the new bridge the Harvey Family Bridge. The decision was made by a majority vote that prohibits naming city facilities for multiple people. The bridge is a bridge that had been washed away.

Cause of Death for Morgan Harrington could take weeks

It could be several more weeks before we know how Morgan Harrington was killed.

The Virginia Tech student's remains were found January 26 on a remote farm near Charlottesville.

An official with the state medical examiner's office say they are still waiting on toxicology reports to come back, which could take up to 12 weeks.

The office has ruled her death a homicide but has not determined a cause.

If you any information on her disappearance call State Police at 434 352-3467.

The Friends of Forest Hill Park have donated \$500 for a plaque that will include a picture of the Harveys. The idea received a boost of votes from other citizens' support city code to name structures after people.

Green said, "it helps with the healing of our community when the government on let's people know that the Harveys were there."

Tom Morris, friend and neighbor of the family said, "It was one of the greatest things I can think of in honor because those were some of the best people we had around."

The Friends of Forest Hill Park have donated \$500 for a plaque and plaque on May 22.

Police Step Up Patrols Following Recent Violence Near VCU Campus

Richmond Police are stepping up patrols on West Broad Street near Virginia Commonwealth University because of increased gun violence in the area. Police said they're also working with local businesses to find out how they can improve security.

Those incidents of violence occurred at parties being held in a building on the corner of West Broad and Lombardy Streets. We talked with a manager of the property who said he rents out the space for many purposes and now has some parties. He told us Monday night, he won't let anyone use the building for parties anymore.

In the last couple months, Terry Fagan has rented out space in the building on the corner of West Broad and Lombardy to a number of parties. He said he was told they were having some DJ's and birthday parties and that he did not see the parties.

Council approves memorial bridge for Harvey Family

A murdered Richmond family will be memorialized with a pedestrian bridge in Forest Hill Park.

City Council unanimously voted Monday to name the span the Harvey Family Bridge. The decision overrode a provision of the city code that prohibits naming city facilities for multiple people. The bridge will be installed over Reedy Creek in the park, replacing a bridge that had been washed away.

In January 2006, Bryan and Kathryn Harvey and their two children, Stella, 9, and Ruby, 4, were found murdered in the basement of their Woodland Heights home.

He was a promising musician. She co-owned a popular toy store in Carytown. Their deaths rocked Richmond. Their killers now sit in jail. Their Richmond neighborhood has never forgotten.

City Council President Kathy Grain said, "The Harvey's the were very very influential in the community they loved the park and I think this is a wonderful tribute to remember them by."

Grain lead the proposal to name the new pedestrian bridge over Reedy Creek the Harvey family bridge.

The Friends of Forest Hill Park have donated \$500 for a plaque, that will include a picture of the Harveys. The idea needed a special vote from council because it's against city code to name structures after people.

Grain said, "it helps with the healing of the community also for generations on let's people know that the Harvey's were there."

Tom Morris, friend and neighbor of the family said, "it's one of the greatest things I can think in honor because those were some of the best people on the planet."

The Friends of Forest Hill Park hope to unveil the new bridge and plaque on May 22.

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Richmond Police are stepping up patrols on West Broad Street near Virginia Commonwealth University because of increased gun violence in the area. Police said they're also working with local businesses, to find out how they can improve security.

Those incidents of violence stemmed from parties being held in a building on the corner of West Broad and Lombardy Streets. We talked to the manager of the property who said he rents out the space for many purposes and now has now noticed a pattern. He told us Monday night, he won't let anyone use his building for parties anymore.

In the last couple months, Terry Bacon has rented out space in the building on the corner of West Broad and Lombardy to a number of party promoters. He said he was told they were hosting sweet 16's and birthday parties and that he did require security.

Bacon also said he's in the process of finding a more permanent tenant for the building. Meanwhile, Richmond Police are still looking for suspects in Friday's shooting. The victim remains in critical but stable condition.

Local Country Music Star Jimmy Dean Inducted to CMA Hall of Fame

Jimmy Dean will be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

The Country Music Association announced the 2010 class yesterday. The singer, actor and businessman will join three other inductees.

Dean became a star in the golden age of television, before founding his sausage company.

Dean, who lives in Henrico, will be inducted later this year in Nashville.

And stay tuned here in the VCU Newsroom. We are going to take a quick break. When we come back, we will have your Vancouver Olympic Update. Stay with us.

BREAK 1

Queue: Olympic Music

Welcome back to the VCU Newsroom. Let's give you a look at how things are going at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games.

Olympic Update

Welcome back to the VCU Newsroom and let's get a check of the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics right now.

First, let's start off with the overall medal count as of right now. The United States continues to lead right now with a total 26 with 7 gold medals, won by Bode Miller in Men's Super Combined, Shawn White in Men's Snowboarding Half-pipe, Evan Lysacek in Men's Figure Skating, Lindsey Vonn in Women's Downhill, Hannah Kearney in Women's Moguls, Seth Westcott in Men's Snowboard Cross and Shani Davis in Men's 1000m Speed Skating.

Second place is Germany with 23 medals overall with Gold in such games as Women's Super Combined and the two-man bobsled. Third is Norway with 17, Russia follows them in fourth with 13 and Canada rounds out the top 5 with 11 medals overall.

One of the big sports that people have been following is the Canadian's pasttime of Men's Hockey. Team Canada suffered a major upset over the weekend facing Team USA. Team Canada, led by Sidney Crosby fell behind right off the bat by poor execution by veteran goaltender Martin Brouder, when a failed clearing attempt led to a goal from Detroit Red Wings defenseman Brian Rafalski. Carolina Hurricanes Captain Eric Staal tied it up halfway through the first before Rafalski put the puck in the net again to give Team USA a 2-1 lead.

Both teams traded goals back and forth until Jamie Langenbruner scored a critical power play goal gave Team USA a 4-2 lead before Sidney Crosby scored to get the back within one but the damage was done. Ryan Kesler gave the deathblow, placing Team USA #1 in their group and giving them a bye to the quarterfinals. The United States is playing right now against the Swiss hockey team and taking a look at the score right now (place score here USA leads Switzerland ~~to~~ 1-0 in the 3rd period.

Later in the 5:30 half hour, we will look at some of the other sports around the Winter Games. Let move on to a look at national headlines here in the VCU Newsroom.

National Headlines

Rhode Island School District Fired All Teachers

A Rhode Island school district has voted to fire all the teachers at an underperforming school.

The Central Falls School Committee voted Tuesday evening to fire every educator at Central Falls High School at the end of the school year.

It's the only school in the tiny, impoverished city north of Providence. Only about half its students graduate, and only 7 percent of 11th-graders were proficient in math in 2009.

The plan was developed because of a federal effort to makeover failing schools.

The Central Falls Teachers Union says it is reviewing legal options and hasn't decided what action to take.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan applauds the decision and says "when schools continue to struggle we have a collective obligation to take action."

Wrestler 'The Undertaker' slightly burned by pyrotechnics mishap

The professional wrestler known as The Undertaker got minor burns on his chest and a scare during a pyrotechnics mishap he escaped without serious injury.

World Wrestling Entertainment spokesman Robert Zimmerman said Tuesday that the wrestler, whose real name is Mark Calaway, is fine and suffered only a minor injury. In fact, he wrestled after being burned Sunday night during a live pay-per-view event at the Scottrade Center and was back in the ring for WWE's "Raw" show on Monday.

The Undertaker, one of the most popular pro wrestlers, enters the ring as fireballs explode and music blares. On Sunday, a fireball went off too close to him.

The wrestler was evaluated by a ringside physician. Zimmerman said he suffered a chest injury that looked like a bad sunburn. He was cleared to wrestle and performed for 25 minutes.

It wasn't clear if the audience knew Calaway was really on fire or if it was part of his act. The Undertaker has notoriously disappeared from WWE for months at a time, often under the presumption that he is dead, only to mysteriously return to the ring to seek vengeance against those who have wronged him.

NHRA Race Spectator killed after struck by flying derbis

A spectator died Sunday after she was struck by a tire from a crashing dragster during the NHRA Arizona Nationals near Phoenix, Arizona.

The car flipped in the first-round race and caught fire, said Alia Maisonet, spokeswoman for the Gila River Indian reservation in Chandler, Arizona, where the racetrack is located.

During the accident, a wheel flew off the car and struck the woman in the stands, she said.

She was airlifted to a local hospital, where she died.

The dragster was driven by Top Fuel driver Antron Brown. He went to a hospital as a precaution, but was released, the National Hot Rod Association said.

"The entire NHRA community is deeply saddened by today's incident and sends its thoughts and prayers to the woman's family and friends," the group said on its Web site.

The accident is under investigation.

Moving on to the Technology Frontpage here in the VCU Newsroom

January Video Game Sales Down 13%

U.S. video game retail sales declined 13 percent in January, another down month for the industry after closing out a rough 2009.

In all, Americans spent nearly \$1.2 billion on video game systems, software and accessories during the month, market researcher NPD Group said Thursday.

Software sales fell 12 percent from the same month a year earlier, to \$777.9 million.

Nintendo's "New Super Mario Bros." was January's best-selling game. "Mass Effect 2" from Electronic Arts was in second place, even though it launched late in the month.

Hardware sales jumped 21 percent to \$331.7 million. The Nintendo Wii sold the most units among the consoles.

Electronic Arts shares slide on weak outlook

A disappointing outlook from Electronic Arts Inc. will drive all the video game publisher sharply lower Monday, a sign that significant cuts and layoffs have not ended the company's slump. The company, whose games include the popular "Need for Speed" series and "Mass Effect 2," said Monday it saw a decline in the U.S. market even as game sales increased. It blamed the revenue fall on having fewer titles than it did in the 2008 holiday period. EA also cited weak sales in Europe, which accounts for about a third of its revenue.

The results for the October-December period were not a surprise, because EA had warned in January it would miss forecasts, leading analysts to lower their estimates.

The company lost \$62 million, 20 cents per share. In the same period a year earlier it lost \$641 million, 32 cents per share.

Revenue fell 25 percent to \$1.24 billion.

Accounting for deferred revenue in games with online components, EA earned 13 cents per share, down from 30 cents per share a year earlier. Analysts were expecting 31 cents, according to Thomson Reuters.

But the company gave a forecast below Wall Street's expectations for the current quarter, even though it is launching several big titles during the period. One is the science-fiction epic "Mass Effect 2." Chief Financial Officer Eric Bosner said in an interview the game has sold 2 million copies so far. EA will also launch Super Bowl ad Sunday to promote the upcoming "Dante's Inferno."

VCU Newsroom Technology

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Hardware sales tumbled 21 percent to \$353.7 million. The Nintendo Wii sold the most units among the consoles.

Electronic Arts shares dive on weak outlook

A disappointing outlook from Electronic Arts Inc. sent shares of the video game publisher sharply lower Monday, a sign that significant cost-cuts and layoffs have not ended the company's slump. The company, whose games include the popular "Madden" series and "Mass Effect 2," said Monday it narrowed its net loss in the last quarter even as game sales declined. It blamed the revenue falloff on having fewer titles than it did in the 2008 holiday period. EA also cited weak sales in Europe, which accounts for about a third of its revenue.

The results for the October-December period were not a surprise, because EA had warned in January it would miss forecasts, leading analysts to lower their estimates.

The company lost \$82 million, 20 cents per share. In the same period a year earlier it lost \$641 million, \$2 per share.

Revenue fell 25 percent to \$1.24 billion.

Accounting for deferred revenue in games with online components, EA earned 33 cents per share, down from 56 cents per share a year earlier. Analysts were expecting 31 cents, according to Thomson Reuters.

But the company gave a forecast below Wall Street's expectations for the current quarter, even though it is launching several big-name titles during the period. One is the science-fiction epic "Mass Effect 2." Chief Financial Officer Eric Brown said in an interview the game has sold 2 million copies so far. EA ran its first-ever Super Bowl ad Sunday to promote the upcoming "Dante's Inferno."

Google Execs convicted of privacy violations

Three Google executives were convicted of privacy violations Wednesday in allowing a video of an autistic boy being abused to be posted online — a case that has been closely watched for its implications on Internet freedom.

Judge Oscar Magi absolved the three of defamation and acquitted a fourth defendant altogether. The three received a suspended six-month sentence for the conviction on violating the youth's privacy.

The trial had been closely watched since it could help define whether the Internet in Italy is an open, self-regulating platform or if content must be better monitored for abusive material.

Google has said it considered the trial a threat to freedom on the Internet because it could force providers to attempt an impossible task — prescreening thousands of hours daily of YouTube footage.

Prosecutors insist the case is not about censorship but about balancing freedom of expression with the rights of an individual.

The four executives were tried in absentia in a closed-door trial.

All denied wrongdoing. None was in any way involved with the production of the video or uploading it onto the viewing platform, but prosecutors argued that it shot to the top of a most-viewed list and should have been noticed.

Convicted of privacy violations were Google's senior vice president and chief legal officer David Drummond, former chief financial officer George Reyes and global privacy counsel Peter Fleischer. Senior product marketing manager Arvind Desikan was acquitted.

Stay tuned here to the VCU Newsroom. When we come back, The VCU Newsroom @ 5:30 starts in about 5 minutes.

BREAK 2

Play Intro

Its 5:30 here on the VCU campus, coming up next, continuing coverage of local and national news, weird news and much more. You're back in the VCU Newsroom on WVCW.

Continuing Coverage

Akio Toyoda to apologize today

The man once called the "prince of Toyota" will have a translator with him today.

He'll be confronted by the mother of an off-duty California highway patrolman killed last August, and emotion is expected to be high once again.

Akio Toyoda will apologize to the family of that officer.

He admits the company veered off from the values it usually follows, saying it grew too quickly to keep up with safety controls.

During testimony yesterday, a woman who survived a crash let the carmaker and safety regulators have it.

"Shame on you, Toyota, for being so greedy and shame on you NHTSA for not doing your job," said former Lexus owner Rhonda Smith.

The head of Toyota's US sales says recent repairs may not be enough to fix the problems, while transportation secretary Ray LaHood says he's worked aggressively to force Toyota to address safety problems.

Despite Toyota's troubles, its Lexus LS460 L is Consumer Reports' best car for 2010.

Line 1 – Here in the VCU Newsroom right now is Frances Correa, multimedia editor for the CT, the Commonwealth Times, the newspaper of VCU.

Commonwealth Times Segment

Question 1: So what stories are we going to see in the CT this week?

Question 2: Is there any one story coming up that you're looking forward to reporting

Thanks for coming in today and we look forward to seeing you again here on VCU Newsroom and no everyone, be sure to pick up your copy of the Commonwealth Times, on stands tomorrow. Lets move on to the VCU Newsroom Campus Calender, your guide to whats going on here on the VCU campus.

Line 2- Lets move on to the VCU Newsroom Campus Calender, your guide to whats going on here on the VCU campus.

VCU Newsroom Campus Calender

VCU to Conduct Tornado Exercise March 2

As part of statewide emergency preparedness efforts, VCU will conduct a tornado exercise at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 2, with the activation of the siren system and all emergency alerting technologies. The siren activation on March 2 also will serve as the monthly siren test normally performed on the first Wednesday of each month. VCU is conducting the exercise in conjunction with statewide efforts to raise awareness about responding to tornadoes.

Nationally Recognized Guest Restaurant Program in Market 810

Market 810 in Shafer Court Dining Center will host local restaurant Elephant Thai on Thursday, Feb. 25, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Elephant Thai will serve some of its most popular entrees at the Fan Fare station. Meat entrees will be available for two additional dining plan swipes, and vegetarian entrees will require one additional swipe. Cash and credit cards also will be accepted.

West Grace Cleanup

Green Unity 4 VCU is hosting a West Grace Street clean up on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 2 p.m. Meet outside of The Village Cafe at 1:50 p.m. or meet the group on the 1100 block of West Grace Street. Volunteers should bring their own water and good walking shoes.

Massey Challenge for the Ukrop's Monument Avenue 10K

The VCU Massey Cancer Center, the official charity of the Ukrop's Monument Avenue 10K scheduled for March 27, is looking for faculty, staff and students to form fund-raising teams for the Massey Challenge and help support the fight against cancer. Massey does not receive any portion of the 10K registration fee. It is free to join the challenge. Visit www.run4massey.org to join.

Time for another break here in the VCU Newsroom. When we come back, we will have another Winter Olympic Update. Stay with us.

BREAK 3

Queue: Olympic Music

Welcome back to the VCU Newsroom. Let's take another look at things at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games.

Olympic Update

Jagr with Injury after Ovi hit

Jaromir Jagr had insisted that the only things that emerged bruised and battered from his center-ice collision with **Alexander Ovechkin** Sunday night were his feelings.

Turns out the damage was more tangible.

Jagr had to leave Tuesday night's Olympic qualifying-round game for his Czech Republic team in the first minute of the second period because of a sore neck that the team doctor said resulted from that Ovechkin hit. Jagr never returned and his team nearly was eliminated from the tournament without him, blowing a two-goal lead only to pull out a victory on David Krejci's goal 5:10 into overtime.

Jagr appeared no worse for wear immediately after Sunday's game, in which he was felled by a thunderous hit from Ovechkin at center ice that produced a turnover off which Russia scored a pivotal goal in its 4-2 Group B victory.

He came back Tuesday night. But he wasn't nearly the same dominating player that he had been through the first three games of the tournament.

And just 35 seconds into a power play in the first minute of the second period, after flubbing a put-away off the left post, Jagr skated to the Czech bench, flexed his neck a few times and then headed to the dressing room. He wound up playing just seven shifts in the game that very well could have been the last of his Olympic career - and could turn out to have been if he can't play Wednesday night against Finland.

Without Jagr, the Czech offense gradually deteriorated.

Asked whether losing such a talent hurt, Czech captain Patrik Elias said: "That sure does. On the other hand, you have guys used to getting more minutes and they got those minutes."

Time for our weekly trip around the world as we bring you VCU Newsroom's News of the Weird.

Weird News

Woman admits to selling kids for bird, \$175 dollars

A Louisiana woman has pleaded guilty to selling two children for a cockatoo and \$175 in what her attorney called an attempt to do a good thing that went wrong.

"It was a really clumsy attempt at an adoption proceeding as she was trying to help the children and get them situated," said the attorney for Donna Louise Greenwell of Pitkin.

Greenwell, 53, was sentenced Monday to 15 months of hard labor on each of two criminal counts: sale of a minor. The sentences are to run concurrently.

The case centered on a 5-year-old boy and a 4-year-old girl in Greenwell's custody.

Investigators said she called Paul J. Romero, 46, and Brandy Lynn Romero, 27, of Evangeline Parish early last year after seeing a flyer they posted offering a cockatoo for sale, and offered to deliver the children for about \$2,000. When the Romeros said they could not afford that, a deal was struck for the bird, valued at \$1,500, plus cash.

Greenwell had custody of the children for more than a year before meeting the Romeros, Sikich said. Her lawyers have maintained she was just trying to find a better home for them.

Puppet cleavage a no-no for Colorado bus shelter

Puppet cleavage has been ruled out for advertising posters in Colorado Springs bus shelters.

Lamar Advertising rejected posters for a touring production of the Broadway show "Avenue Q" because they show the cleavage of a fuzzy pink puppet.

Lamar account executive Jeff Moore says the company takes a conservative approach in Colorado Springs. The city is known for its political conservatism, and some conservative Christian groups have headquarters in the city.

The poster has been replaced by one showing the face of another puppet.

"Avenue Q" is a Tony-winning musical about twentysomething New Yorkers, both human and puppets, searching for life and love.

Man rides to church on horse with holstered gun

Members of a small central Kentucky church successfully disarmed a man who rode horseback to morning services, then walked into the church with a holstered gun. Police said the man, 43, was arrested about an hour later at a house and charged with public intoxication.

The Advocate-Messenger of Danville reported Monday that local and state police were called to Ellisburg Baptist Church after the man arrived, disrupting the service.

Cindy Adams, wife of pastor Jerry Adams, said several men led him outside and talked him into giving up his gun and a rifle he had also brought on the horse.

Ky. wants to take 'dueling' from officials oath

When you take the oath of office in Kentucky, you have to swear that you haven't taken part in a duel with deadly weapons.

The promise usually elicits laughter, and state Rep. Darryl Owens has proposed amending the Kentucky Constitution to do away with the archaic language. The Democrat's proposal cleared a House committee Tuesday.

According to Carl Chelf, a retired political science professor at Western Kentucky University, the language comes from Kentucky's frontier days, when the state was a hotbed for dueling. Chelf says the framers of the state constitution wanted to clean up Kentucky's reputation as a haven where people came to fight duels.

If the proposal passes the House and Senate, voters would be asked in November whether they want to take the language out.

Theives overheard after misdialing 911

Police say two Florida teenagers are facing charges after 911 dispatchers heard them talking about breaking into cars when one teen's cell phone accidentally called 911 during the heist.

Daytona Beach police say 19-year-old Stefanie Vargas and a 13-year-old are charged with burglary to a conveyance.

Police spokesman Jimmie Flynt says dispatchers listened as the pair discussed what was worth taking while rummaging through a vehicle parked near a Daytona Beach nightclub early Sunday.

Officers went to the area and spotted the 13-year-old inside a vehicle. A police report says the teen tried to flee in a sport utility vehicle driven by Vargas. The report says both admitted to the robbery.

It's unclear how the number got dialed.

We're going to take one last break here in the VCU Newsroom, when we come back, a final check of your weather before you head out to your 7 to 9:40 class.

Stay with us here on WVCW.

Sports fan? The Aftermath track now sponsored at 5:00. Join Matt and AJ with all the latest sports news from VCU and the professional sports world.

Finally thanks to NBC12, M-2000, and the VCU Telegram for the amazing turnout today.

We will be back next Wednesday at 5 with more local news and other stories. I'm Michael Campbell for VCU Newsroom, have a great night and enjoy some great music on WVCW.

BREAK 3

Final Weather Check

We close the VCU Newsroom on this Wednesday with a final check of your weather right now.

The clouds have moved into the area ahead of not one but two storm systems coming together off the coast of the state. Snow showers will begin to roll in as we move into sunset tonight. Here in the metro area, we can expect some mild accumulation, with about an inch of snow possible. This will make the morning commute tricky but not to dangerous in the morning.

Areas to the south should expect this storm to bring about 1 to 2 inches and the areas near the coast could see about 3-5 inches. This storm will move out the area over the day Thursday and we may even see a peek of sun over the day tomorrow. This storm will become a pretty powerful nor'easter that will bring blizzard conditions to the New York Area and points north.

Stay tuned here to the VCU Newsroom, we will have another check of your weather here during the show.

Close

As always, stay tuned here to WVCW for great programming.

Want more news? Be sure to check out Into The Airwaves on Monday Nights. Bobby's got you covered with all the latest political, national and international news headlines.

Sports fan? The Aftermath is all new tomorrow at 5:00. Join Matt and A.B. with all the latest sports news from VCU and the professional sports world.

Finally thanks to NBC12, MSNBC, and the VCU Telegram for the stories featured today.

We will be back next Wednesday at 5 with more local news and other stories. I'm Michael Campbell, for VCU Newsroom, have a great night and enjoy some great music on WVCW.